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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/587,403	06/05/2000	Robert D Gardos	81866.A	9935
26021	7590	01/13/2005		
HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P. 500 S. GRAND AVENUE SUITE 1900 LOS ANGELES, CA 90071-2611			EXAMINER TRUONG, THANHNGA B	
			ART UNIT 2135	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 01/13/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/587,403

Applicant(s)

GARDOS ET AL.

Examiner

Thanhnga B. Truong

Art Unit

2135

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the corresponding address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06/24/2004 (Amendment).
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 7-15, 18-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Waters (US 6, 564, 216).

a. Referring to claim 7:

i. Waters teaches:

(1) The limitation of generating messages to acknowledging authentication of party seeking access to the domain management system, identifying active domain and issuing update requests is disclosed by Waters (**column 9, lines 5-18**). Note this can include a graphics interface for user, or electronic message for updating the central database, validating user, or polling devices. Claim 7 is rejected.

b. Referring to claim 8:

i. Waters further teaches:

(1) The limitation of a diagnostic utility engine (troubleshooter software) is disclosed by Water (**column 9, lines 9-15**). The operating system continually checks and analyzes the status of the system through electronic communication messages. Claim 8 is rejected.

c. Referring to claims 9-11:

i. Waters further teaches:

(1) The limitation that the diagnostic utility performs troubleshooting on all parts of the system and report to the network administrator is disclosed by Waters (**column 9, lines 5-35**). Claims 9-11 are rejected.

d. Referring to claim 12:

i. Waters further teaches:

(1) The limitation that the update engine resides on the accredited registrar (delta-logging facility in the central database) is disclosed by Waters (**column 8, lines 23-24**). Claim 12 is rejected.

e. Referring to claims 13-15:

i. Waters further teaches:

(1) The limitation that the update software can reside on a server that directly access a shared registry, or on a server directly connected to a second server, or passing through a second server connected to the shared registry is disclosed by Waters (**see Figure 2**). Claims 13-15 are rejected.

f. Referring to claims 18-19:

i. These claims have limitations that is similar to those of claim 7, thus they are rejected with the same rationale applied against claim 7 above.

g. Referring to claim 20:

i. This claim has some limitations that is similar to those of claim 8, thus it is rejected with the same rationale applied against claim 8 above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-6, 16-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Waters (US 6, 564, 216).

a. Referring to claim 1:

i. Waters teaches:

(1) domain identification means, coupled to receive input from a party seeking access to the domain management system, for accepting and confirming identity of a domain name to be an active domain name [**i.e., after logging in with the server manager 201, each DNS server 202A-N and DHCP server 203A-N must set their server-id, step 306. Each server-id is checked against all of the DNS and DHCP servers already coupled in communication with the server manager 201, step 307. If the server-id is the same as a server-id for a server already on the network, the TCP link for the requesting server will be dropped, step 308. If the server-id is unique to that server, the login process is complete, step 309 (column 5, lines 19-58). In addition, in order to add host information to the central database 204, the server manager 201 must determine if the domain name is available, unavailable, moving from another host or being updated. (column 7, line 16-19)];**

(2) means for determining if the party has authority to alter information about the active domain name and, if the part lacks authority for the active domain name, determining if the party should be given authority for the active domain name; and [**i.e., in order to add host information to the central database 204, the server manager 201 must determine if the domain name is available, unavailable, moving from another host or being updated. Upon receiving a request from a DHCP server 203A to add a host, the server manager 201 first checks if the domain is a Canonical Name (CNAME) or primary name. If the domain is a CNAME, it fails validation and the server manager 201 notifies the DHCP server 203A that the domain is unavailable..sup.11 If the domain does not exist in the central database 204, the label.sup.12 may be assigned to the host and the server manager 201 notifies the DHCP server 203A that the domain is available (column 7, line 16-29)];**

(3) information change means for accepting a request to change information about the active domain name, passing an information change request toward a database authoritative for like information about domain names, and

generating a confirmation message displayable to a party using the domain management system [i.e., **The server manager 201 synchronizes all of the requests and updates from the servers and transmits them to the central database 204. The server manager 201 monitors all the DNS servers 202A-N and DHCP servers 203A-N on the network from a single point and acts as a single pipeline to the central database 204. For example, when a new client 208 sends a request for an IP address to a DHCP server 203A, the DHCP server 203A determines if it can send configuration information to the requesting client 208. If the DHCP server 203A can give an IP address and configuration information to the client 208, it sends host configuration information and an IP address to the client 208. The DHCP server 203A automatically registers the new domain name, the IP address and the host configuration information with the central database 204 through the server manager 201. The DNS server 202A detects the new IP address through the server manager and updates its DNS information. When the lease expires or the client 208 leaves the network and releases the IP address, the DHCP server 203A notifies the central database 204 of the change through the server manager 201. The IP address is available for reassignment by the DHCP server 203A to a new client. Therefore, the server manager 201 eliminates the need for the individual DNS servers 202A-N and DHCP servers 203A-N to establish direct communication channels with the central database by providing access to the central database 204 through one communication channel 206 (column 5, lines 32-59)];**

ii. Although Waters does not explicitly state clearly the role of authorization of the server manager 201 as in Figure 2, Waters implies:

(1) The server manager would communicate directly with the plurality of servers and the central database and transmit any requests from the servers to the central database. Therefore, the central database only would need to communicate with the server manager. All configuration changes, whether made statically, dynamically or at remote locations, are registered in the central database and automatically distributed to the appropriate servers (**column 3, lines 8-45**).

iii. It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to:

(1) state clearly the role of authorization of the server manager 201 as in Figure 2 of Waters to provide an improved means of communicating between a database and one or more servers. **(column 2, lines 7-9 of Waters).**

iv. The ordinary skilled person would have been motivated to:

(1) state clearly the role of authorization of the server manager 201 as in Figure 2 of Waters to manage IP addressing in a network and effectively synchronize communication between a central database and one or more servers (such as DNS and DHCP) **(column 2, lines 12-15 of Waters).**

b. Referring to claim 2:

i. This claim has some limitations that is similar to those of claim 1, thus it is rejected with the same rationale applied against claim 1 above.

c. Referring to claims 3-5:

i. Waters further teaches:

(1) wherein the information change means resides on a server and/or a server coupled to a second server capable of directly accessing a share registry system [i.e., referring to Figure 2, note that a number of DNS servers and DHCP servers share a common central database. Furthermore, note that client can go through a binding server or the DNS/DHCP servers to get to the server manager which then can go to the share register (configuration database)].

d. Referring to claim 6:

i. Waters further teaches:

(1) wherein the authoritative database is a shared registry system [i.e., referring again to Figure 2, note all updates for all DNS's are recorded in the central database].

e. Referring to claims 16- 17:

i. Although Waters teaches the claimed subject matter of claim 7, Waters does not explicitly state clearly the role of authorization of the server manager 201 as in Figure 2; however, Waters implies:

(1) The server manager would communicate directly with the plurality of servers and the central database and transmit any requests from the servers to the central database. Therefore, the central database only would need to communicate with the server manager. All configuration changes, whether made statically, dynamically or at remote locations, are registered in the central database and automatically distributed to the appropriate servers (**column 3, lines 8-45**).

iii. It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to:

(1) state clearly the role of authorization of the server manager 201 as in Figure 2 of Waters to provide an improved means of communicating between a database and one or more servers. (**column 2, lines 7-9 of Waters**).

iv. The ordinary skilled person would have been motivated to:

(1) state clearly the role of authorization of the server manager 201 as in Figure 2 of Waters to manage IP addressing in a network and effectively synchronize communication between a central database and one or more servers (such as DNS and DHCP) (**column 2, lines 12-15 of Waters**).

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments filed June 18, 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that:

Nothing in the Waters patent relates to a request for input from an operator seeking access to the domain management system of a domain name to be an active domain name, or to a request to change information about the active domain name, or to display a screen confirming execution of the information change request. No display screens are described in the Waters patent and the Waters patent provides no teachings related to changing information related to a domain name.

Examiner maintains that:

Waters teaches all the claimed subject matter. In fact, Waters teaches the traps could contain information such as setting the server status to up when the server successfully establishes a TCP link with the server manager 201, setting the server

status to down when the TCP link between the server and the server manager is dropped and setting the server status to failed login when the server successfully establishes a TCP link with the server manager 201 but tried an invalid login. These traps can then be viewed from the GUI by the network administrator. The advantage to using the server manager 201 for active server management is that the server manager 201 can detect when a server has crashed. In some embodiments, multiple servers are running on the same hardware. If the hardware is still running but one of the servers has crashed, the server manager 201 can detect the change through the TCP link which will be dropped if the server crashes. When the TCP link is started or dropped, the server manager 201 generates an exception, such as the described SNMP traps, to the NMS 205. Therefore, the network administrator is able to determine if a server has gone down if the hardware is still operational (column 9, lines 32-44).

Conclusion

6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

a. Borsato et al (US 6,654,891 B1) discloses a method and apparatus for providing information between a central database and at least one server. A server manager is coupled between the central database and the at least one server. The server manager communicates configuration information between the central database and the at least one server in a single communication channel (see abstract).

b. Farrow et al (US 6,374,295 B2) discloses A method and apparatus for managing IP addressing in a network and effectively synchronizing communication between a central database and one or more servers (such as DNS and DHCP) (see abstract).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then

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the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

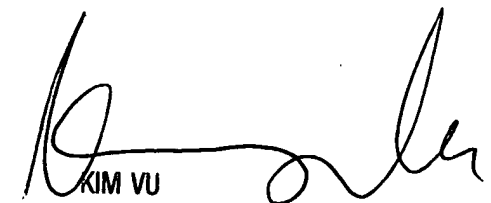
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thanhnga (Tanya) Truong whose telephone number is 571-272-3858.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Vu can be reached on 571-272-3859. The fax and phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-2100.

TBT

January 07, 2005



KIM VU
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100